

REMARKS

Claims 8-14 are withdrawn. By the above amendment, applicant has amended claim 1, and has canceled claims 2-7 without prejudice. New claims 15-18 have been added.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In response to these rejections, applicant has canceled claims 3 and 5 without prejudice, and the rejections relating thereto are now moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Edwards US 4,155,447.

By the above amendment, applicant has canceled claims 2-4 without prejudice, and has amended independent claim 1 in order to patentably define the invention over various prior art cited, including Edwards. In response to the rejection, applicant submits that independent claim 1 is patentable over Edwards, as follows:

Amended claim 1 recites in part:

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...at least two division plates orthogonally disposed between the frames, one of which being parallel to the side plates...the frames, the side plates and the division plates define at least three spaces for holding substrates...

Applicant submits that Edwards does not disclose, teach, or otherwise suggest the invention as currently recited in amended claim 1.

Edwards does disclose a printed circuit board carrier (10) having at least two adjustable vertical side members (23), which are adjustable horizontally to vary the spacing between the vertical side members (23)...(see FIG. 1 and column 1, lines 15-21). However, Edwards does not disclose or suggest a cassette for supporting substrates having...at least two division plates orthogonally disposed between the frames, one of which being parallel to the side plates...wherein the frames, the side plates and the division plates define at least three spaces for holding substrates.

That is, firstly, the vertical side members (23) in Edwards are horizontally adjustable, and are all parallel to the vertical side members (16, 18) (see FIG. 1). This configuration is very different from the orthogonally disposed division plates recited in amended claim 1. Secondly, in Edwards, the two vertical side members (23), the vertical side members (16, 18), and the top and base member (12, 14) cooperatively define only two carrying spaces for carrying print circuit boards (see FIG. 1). However, the at least two division plates recited in amended claim 1 cooperate with the frames and the side plates to define at least three spaces for holding substrates. These differences indicate that Edwards does not teach or suggest an assembling device comprising all the limitations recited

in amended claim 1.

In summary, there is nothing in the cited reference that teaches or suggests to one of ordinary skill in the art that they might or should provide the cassette of amended claim 1. Furthermore, the cassette as recited in amended claim 1 produces new and unexpected results. That is, the cassette provides at least three receiving spaces for holding and transporting substrates therein, and each receiving space can be easily adjusted to accommodate substrates of various sizes. Accordingly, the efficiency of utilization of space is high.

In summary, amended claim 1 is submitted to be novel, unobvious and patentable over Edwards under both s.102(b) and s.103. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of amended claim 1 are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Edwards (US 4,155,447).

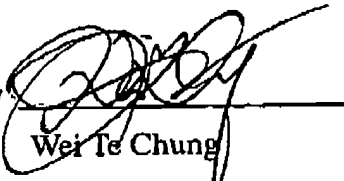
In response to these rejections, applicant has canceled claims 6-7 without prejudice, and the rejections relating thereto are now moot.

New claims 15-18 have been added. FIGS. 1-2 and detailed descriptions in the specification disclose embodiments of all the features of the invention specified in claims 15-18. No new matter is added. New claims 15-18 directly or indirectly depend from amended claim 1, and are believed to be patentable and in a condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, the present application as claimed in the pending claims is considered to be in a condition for allowance, and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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